

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2003

LCO No. 6485

SB0103506485SD0

Offered by:

SEN. FINCH, 22nd Dist. SEN. SMITH, 14th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1035

File No. 632

Cal. No. 412

"AN ACT CONCERNING WHITE COLLAR CRIME ENFORCEMENT, THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM SECURITIES ACT AND CORPORATE FRAUD ACCOUNTABILITY."

- 1 Strike section 37 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
- 2 thereof:
- 3 "Sec. 37. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2003) No accountant who
- 4 conducts an audit of a publicly held corporation shall alter, destroy or
- 5 conceal any documents sent, received or created in connection with
- 6 such audit and containing conclusions, opinions, analyses, or financial
- 7 data related to such audit for a period extending from the end of the
- 8 fiscal period in which the audit was concluded until seven years after
- 9 the conclusion of the audit."
- 10 Strike section 38 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
- 11 thereof:
- 12 "Sec. 38. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2003) (a) Each officer of a

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13 corporation organized under the laws of this state or authorized to

- transact business in this state who is subject to the requirements of 18
- 15 USC 1350 shall certify, in the manner set forth in said section and the
- 16 rules and regulations adopted under said section by the United States
- 17 Securities and Exchange Commission, and as from time to time
- 18 amended, that the financial statements of the corporation fairly
- 19 present, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of
- 20 operations of the corporation.
- 21 (b) Any chief executive officer or chief financial officer under
- 22 subsection (a) of this section who certifies a financial statement of the
- 23 corporation knowing that the statement does not fairly represent, in all
- 24 material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of
- 25 the corporation shall be fined not more than one million dollars or
- 26 imprisoned not more than ten years, or both."
- 27 Strike section 40 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
- 28 thereof:
- 29 "Sec. 40. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2003) (a) A violation of section
- 30 35 or sections 37 to 39, inclusive, of this act shall be deemed an unfair
- 31 or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b of
- 32 the general statutes, provided the provisions of section 42-110g of the
- general statutes shall not apply to such violation."
- 34 Strike section 45 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
- 35 thereof:
- 36 "Sec. 45. Subsection (a) of section 20-281a of the general statutes is
- 37 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 38 October 1, 2003):
- 39 (a) After notice and hearing pursuant to section 20-280c, the board
- 40 may revoke any certificate, license or permit issued under section 20-
- 41 281c, 20-281d or 20-281e; suspend any such certificate, registration,
- 42 license or permit or refuse to renew any such certificate, license or
- 43 permit; reprimand, censure, or limit the scope of practice of any

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44 licensee; impose a civil penalty not exceeding [one] fifty thousand

- dollars upon licensees or others violating provisions of section 20-281g
- 46 or place any licensee on probation, all with or without terms,
- 47 conditions and limitations, for any one or more of the following
- 48 reasons, provided any such discipline imposed by the board solely for
- 49 reasons listed in subdivision (4) of this subsection shall not exceed in
- 50 <u>severity the sanctions under said subdivision (4)</u>:
- 51 (1) Fraud or deceit in obtaining a certificate, registration, license or 52 permit;
- 53 (2) Cancellation, revocation, suspension or refusal to renew 54 authority to engage in the practice of public accountancy in any other
- 55 state for any cause;
- 56 (3) Failure, on the part of a holder of a license or permit under 57 section 20-281d or 20-281e, to maintain compliance with the 58 requirements for issuance or renewal of such license or permit or to
- 59 report changes to the board under subsection (g) of section 20-281d or
- 60 subsection (f) of section 20-281e;
- 61 (4) [Revocation] <u>Discipline by, or revocation</u> or suspension of the
- 62 right to practice before, any state or federal agency that regulates the
- 63 practice of public accountancy, or discipline by, or revocation or
- 64 suspension of such right to practice by, the Public Company
- 65 <u>Accounting Oversight Board</u>;
- 66 (5) Dishonesty, fraud or negligence in the practice of public
- 67 accountancy or in the filing or failure to file his own income tax
- 68 returns;
- 69 (6) Violation of any provision of sections 20-279b to 20-281m,
- inclusive, or regulation adopted by the board under said sections;
- 71 (7) Violation of any rule of professional conduct adopted by the
- 72 board under subdivision (4) of subsection (g) of section 20-280;
- 73 (8) Conviction of a felony, or of any crime an element of which is

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dishonesty or fraud, under the laws of the United States, of this state,

- or of any other state if the acts involved would have constituted a
- 76 crime under the laws of this state, subject to the provisions of section
- 77 46a-80;
- 78 (9) Performance of any fraudulent act while holding a registration,
- certificate, license or permit issued under sections 20-279b to 20-281m,
- 80 inclusive, or prior law;
- 81 (10) Any conduct reflecting adversely upon the licensee's fitness to
- 82 engage in the practice of public accountancy; and
- 83 (11) Violation by anyone of any provision of section 20-281g."
- In line 1676, strike "seven years" and insert the following in lieu
- 85 thereof: "the period described in section 37 of this act"